

# UNIT 2 Ancient Egypt, China, and India

6000 B.C. to 552 A.D.

2500 B.C.  
Planned cities are built in India.

1766 B.C.  
Shang dynasty, China's first, begins.

1570 B.C.  
New Kingdom of Egypt begins.

563 B.C.  
Siddhartha Gautama (Buddha) is born.

212 B.C.  
Great Wall of China construction begins.

500 A.D.  
Gupta Empire collapses after Hun invasions.

6000 B.C.

6000 B.C.  
Farming begins in western India.

5000 B.C.

5000 B.C.  
Yangshao culture begins in China.

4000 B.C.

3100 B.C.  
Upper and Lower Egypt unite.

3000 B.C.

2000 B.C.

1000 B.C.  
Hindus write down world's oldest scriptures.

1000 B.C.

551 B.C.  
Confucius is born.

B.C. < > A.D.

321 B.C.  
Mauryan Empire begins in India.

1000 A.D.

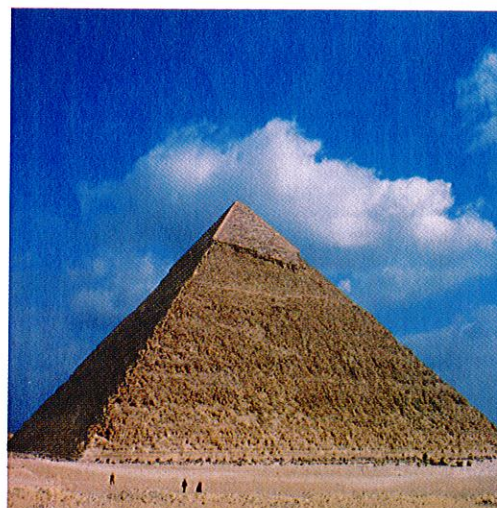
350 A.D.  
Kingdom of Kush falls.

## Civilization in Ancient Egypt

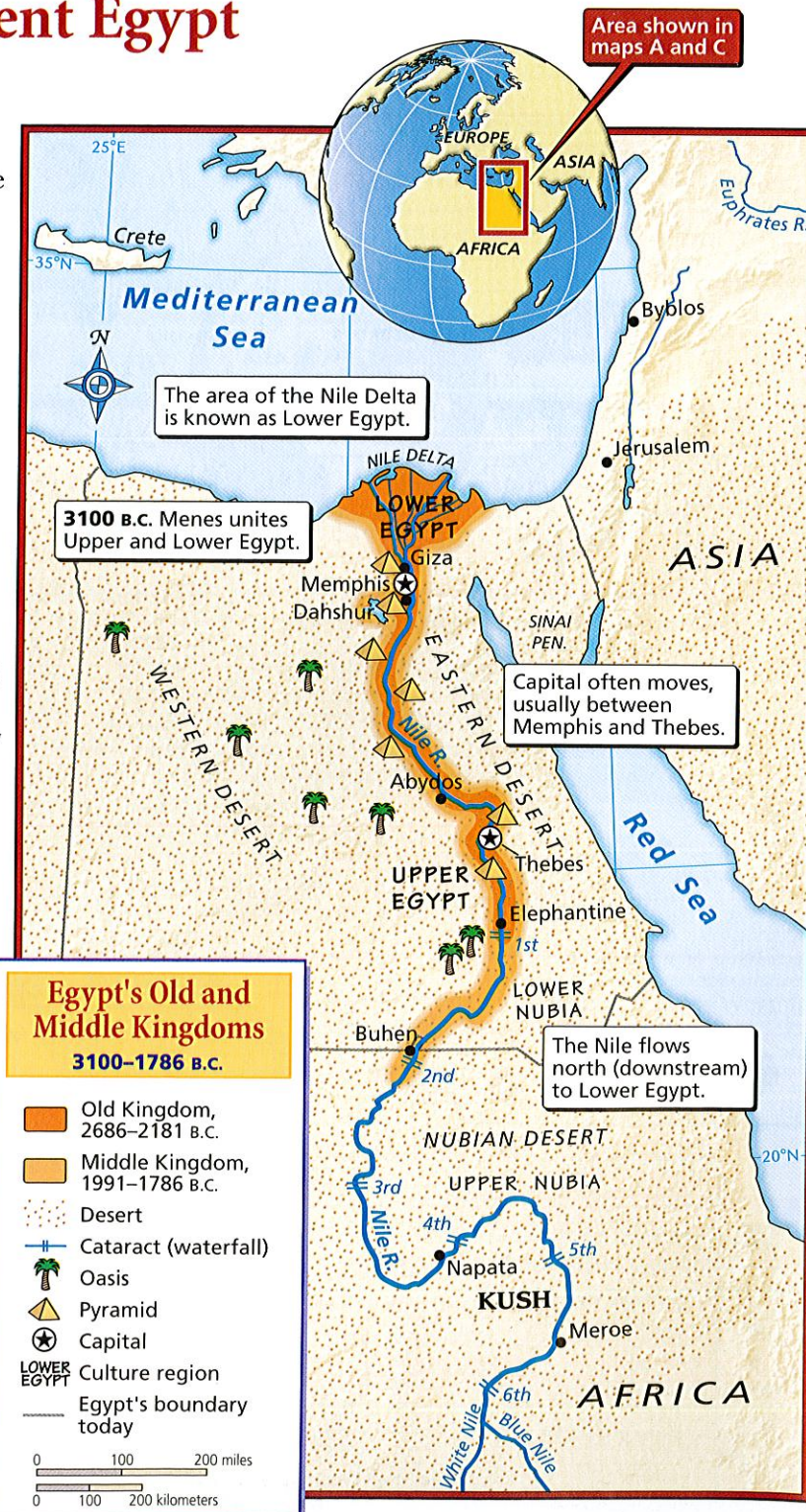
Ancient Egypt is one of the oldest and longest lasting civilizations in the world. This civilization began in a river valley more than 5,000 years ago.

- Ancient Egypt arose along the Nile River in northeastern Africa.
- The first 2,000 years of Egyptian history are divided into three periods: the Old, Middle, and New Kingdoms.
- The ancient Egyptians developed an advanced civilization. They built cities, invented hieroglyphics (a form of writing), and created large monuments.

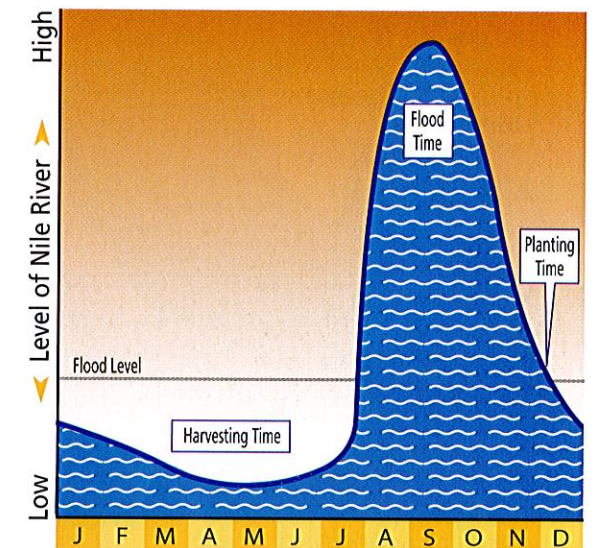
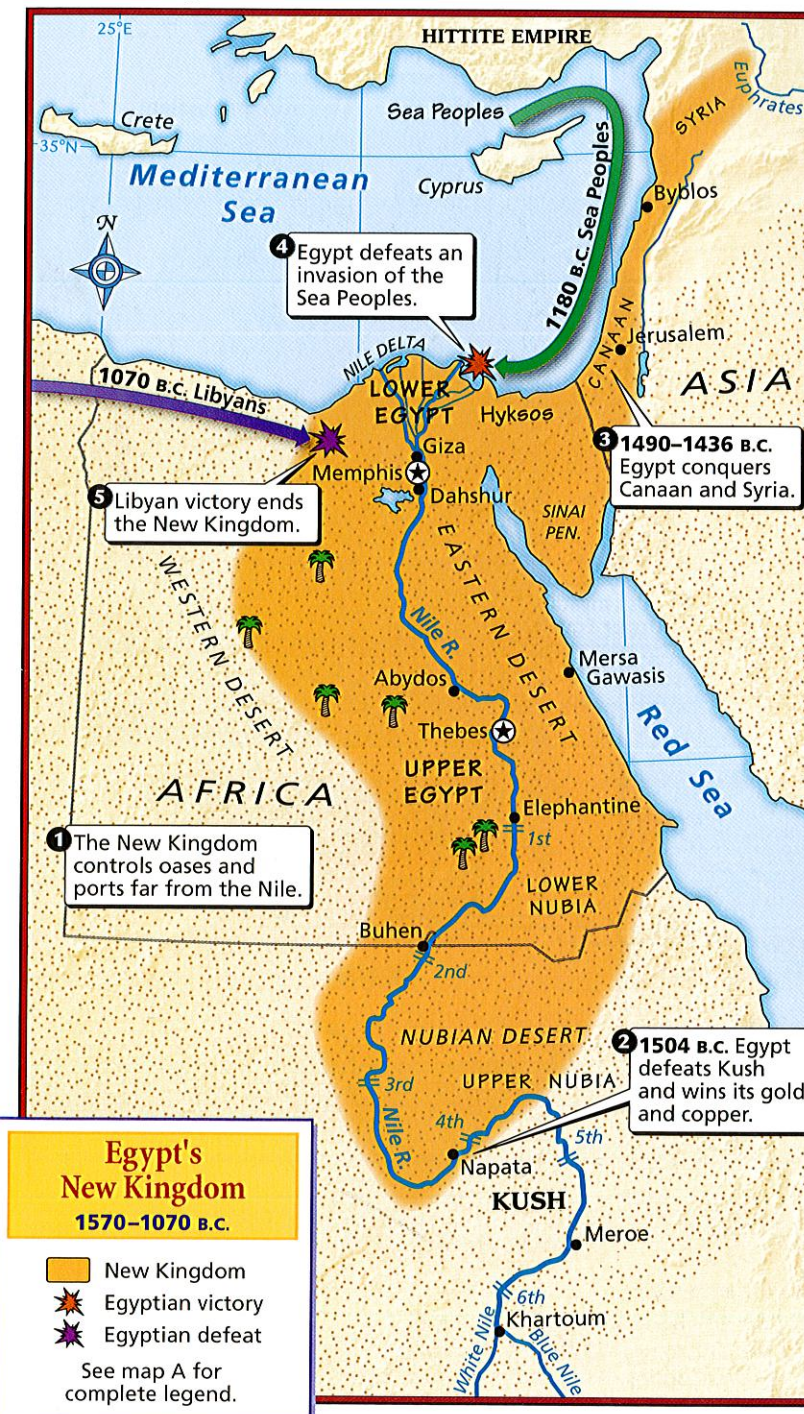
**A** During the Old Kingdom, a strong central government was established and the building of pyramids began. During the Middle Kingdom, Egypt expanded south along the Nile and conquered Lower Nubia.



**B** Thousands of workers built huge pyramids as tombs for Egyptian rulers. Farmers helped while the Nile was flooded.

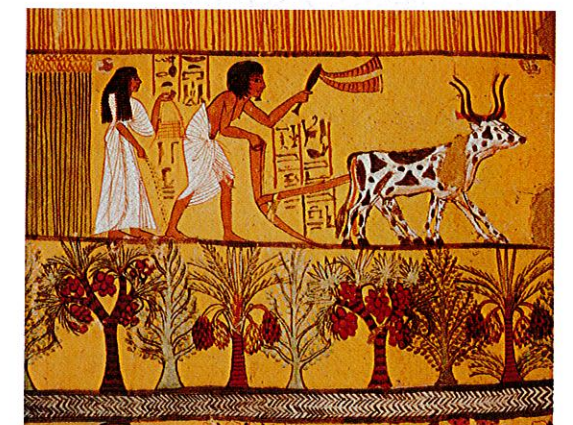


**C** After the Middle Kingdom broke apart, Egypt was ruled by the Hyksos people of Asia. Then the Egyptians overthrew the Hyksos and began the New Kingdom. This new Egyptian empire became the strongest and wealthiest in the world.



### Flooding of the Nile

**D** Ancient Egypt has been called the "gift of the Nile." The Nile flooded around the same time every year, depositing rich soil for farming.



**E** Most Egyptians lived in the Nile River Valley. This husband and wife are plowing fields, preparing the soil for planting. Look at graph D. In which months would they be plowing?